

Melbourn Rural District Council.



REPORT

For the Year 1904,

BY

BUSHELL ANNINGSON, M.D., M.A.,

Cambridge University Lecturer in Medical Jurisprudence,

Late University Examiner in State Medicine,

*Fellow and Member of the Council and late Member of the Board
of Examiners, The Royal Sanitary Institute,*

*Fellow and Member of the Council Royal Institute Public Health,
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Assistant Examiner South Kensington,

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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MELBOURN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT.

I beg leave to communicate to the Melbourn Rural District Council my Annual Report for the year 1904 on "the conditions affecting the health in the District and the means for improving those conditions," and in addressing myself to this task I have to point out to the Council that by the "Memorandum as to Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health," issued by the Local Government Board, October 1904, I am directed to discuss prescribed subjects in definite order and give information, which may seem superfluous to the Council. The following extract from the memorandum will make clear the intentions of the Local Government Board :—

"As subjects concerning which the Board desire to obtain, through Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health, not only definite general information, but record also of particular changes of condition that may have occurred incidentally or by action of the local authority, the following deserve to be especially borne in mind :—

- "Physical features and general character of the District.
- "House accommodation, especially for the working classes ; its adequacy and fitness for habitation. Sufficiency of open space about houses, and cleanliness of surroundings. Supervision over erection of new houses.
- "Sewerage and drainage ; its sufficiency in all parts of the District. Condition of sewers and house drains. Method or methods of disposal of sewage. Localities where improvements are needed.
- "Excrement disposal : system in vogue ; defects, if any.
- "Removal and disposal of house refuse—whether by public scavenger or occupiers : frequency and method.
- "Water supply of the District or its several parts : its source (from public service or otherwise), nature (river water, well water, upland water, etc.), sufficiency, wholesomeness, and freedom (by special treatment or otherwise) from risks of pollution.
- "Places over which the Council have supervision, *e.g.*, lodging houses, slaughterhouses, bakehouses, dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops, factories and workshops, and offensive trades.
- "Nuisances : proceedings for their abatement—any remaining unabated.
- "Methods of dealing with infectious diseases : notification ; isolation hospital accommodation and its sufficiency ; disinfection.

With regard to such points it should be remembered that these reports are for the information of the Board and of the County Council as well as of the Council of the District, and that a statement of the local circumstances and a history of local sanitary questions, which may seem superfluous for the latter, may often be needed by the former bodies."

According to my usual practice I first pass in review the Vital Statistics and Disease Incidence of the year.

1.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Inasmuch as a decrease in the population is governed by emigration rather than by the relation of birth-rate and death-rate, as is the natural increase, there is no certain factor by which the population can be estimated, and as there is no reason to suppose there is sufficient material alteration to vitiate the substantial accuracy of statistical calculations based upon the results of the enumeration of the population at the Census of 1901, I use those figures as the basis of calculation of Vital Statistics, which are as follows :—

Vital Statistics

Population

The number of deaths which have been registered in the several parishes is 100 ; to this number must be added those deaths which have occurred in Public Institutions outside the district belonging thereto, viz.—two in Addenbrooke's Hospital, nine in the Union Workhouse, and two in the County Asylum, respectively, making a corrected total of 113 (65 males, and 48 females), which on the published Census return of 1901, gives a death-rate from all causes and at all ages per 1,000 living per annum of 13·2. The mean death-rate for the previous seven years is 13·5. The death-rate in England and Wales for the year 1904 is given as 16·2 in the Summary of the Registrar General contained in the Appendix to his Report for the last quarter of the year.

Deaths and
Death-rate

Deaths in the group of epidemic diseases in the district have been from Measles 1 ; Whooping Cough 2 ; and Diarrhœa 2 ; total 5 ; equal to a death-rate from these diseases of 0·58 per thousand living per annum. The mean rate for the previous seven years is 0·77. Influenza has caused no deaths.

Epidemic
Mortality.

The total number of births registered is 171 (99 males and 72 females), equal to a birth-rate of 19·9 per thousand living per annum. The mean birth-rate for the previous seven years is 22·0. The birth-rate for England and Wales for the year 1904 is given as 27·9, which is 0·5 per thousand below the rate in 1903 and lower than the rate in any other year on record.

Births and
Birth-rate.

The ratio of deaths under one year of age to one thousand registered births is 58, and is the lowest rate recorded since the constitution of the district. The mean rate for the previous seven years is 81.

Infantile
Mortality.

District.	Deaths Registered.	Cottage Hospital	Share of Workhouse.	County Asylum.	Addenbrooke's Hospital.	Total.
Melbourn R.D.C.	100	—	9	2	2	113

Diarrhœa. The number of deaths from Diarrhœa among persons belonging to the district is 2, and the death-rate is 0·23.

Phthisis. The number of deaths from Phthisis among persons belonging to the district is 5, and the death-rate per thousand living from this disease is 0·58.

Cancer. The number of deaths from Cancer among persons belonging to the district is 18, and the death-rate is 2·10.

The deaths and death-rate from Diarrhœa, Phthisis, and Cancer respectively in the district among persons belonging thereto during the previous seven years are set out in the following table :—

	DIARRHŒA				PHTHISIS				CANCER			
	Deaths		Death-rate		Deaths		Death-rate		Deaths		Death-rate	
1897	...	1	...	0·10	7	...	0·73		6	...	0·62	
1898	...	6	...	0·64	3	...	0·32		8	...	0·85	
1899	...	6	...	0·66	7	...	0·77		6	...	0·66	
1900	...	2	...	0·22	10	...	1·13		9	...	1·02	
1901	...	0	...	0·00	3	...	0·35		10	...	1·16	
1902	...	0	...	0·00	8	...	0·93		10	...	1·16	
1903	...	0	...	0·00	9	...	1·05		9	...	1·05	
Average for years	—		—		—		—		—		—	
1897—1903	2·1	...	0·23		6·7	...	0·75		8·3	...	0·93	

2.—DISEASE INCIDENCE.

Disease
Incidence.

Disease of an infectious character has been more prevalent than during any year since the district was constituted (1897). The number of cases notified during the year is 61, (none fatal), equal to a case rate per thousand of the population of 7·12. The number of cases notified each year since the constitution of the district is as follows:—38 in 1897, 33 in 1898, 33 in 1899, 23 in 1900, 30 in 1901, 52 in 1902 and 34 in 1903, total 243. The mean case rate is 3·89.

Small Pox.

No case of Small Pox has been notified in the district during the year; and only one case has occurred in the district during the past seven years.

Scarlet Fever

Forty-seven cases of Scarlet Fever (none fatal) have been notified during the year, equal to a case-rate per thousand of the population of 5·49.

A sporadic case was notified at Meldreth on January 19th, which could not be connected with any antecedent case. No further cases occurred till May 25th, from which date to August 8th, six cases in five households at Meldreth, and thirty-three cases in seventeen households at Melbourn were notified and constituted an epidemic. The disease would appear to have had its origin at Meldreth, but from what source could not be ascertained with certainty, and was introduced into Melbourn

by means of the School, which is common to the two villages. The larger number of cases and the long persistence of the disease in Melbourn, in spite of school closure, is mainly attributable to unknown cases of a mild character for which no medical aid had been sought; many of these cases were discovered on successive visits by the Medical Officer of Health in a circumscribed area of the village consisting of narrow lanes, and some of the cases which had been concealed and were discovered with some difficulty were in an advanced stage of desquamation; after these cases were removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital the epidemic came to an end. The Schools were thoroughly disinfected with Formalin by means of the Equifex Spraying Machine. At Shepreth an adult person was discovered on June 14th by the resident medical practitioner and the Medical Officer of Health to be in a state of desquamation; the patient thought that the desquamation was due to handling Primulas, but investigation indicated that the case was an outlying one connected with the Melbourn outbreak. At Fowlmere one case which occurred at an outlying part of the village and was notified on July 14th could not be satisfactorily traced. No further cases occurred in the district till September 24th, when two cases in one household at Whaddon were notified. The disease was possibly brought from Stevenage as the outset of the illness of the earlier of the two cases occurred four days after return home from that place. Another case in another household was notified on October 8th, and the disease in this instance was with some probability introduced by a visitor from South London. At Great Chishall two cases in one household were notified at the beginning of December and occurred within five days of one another; the origin of the infection could not be discovered.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified and deaths registered in the district during the seven years 1897–1903 are as follows:—Cases 15 in 1897, 16 in 1898, 17 in 1899, 9 in 1900, 15 in 1901, 34 in 1902, and 17 in 1903, total 123. Deaths, nil. The mean case-rate per thousand of the population is 1·96.

Two cases (none fatal), of Diphtheria have been notified during the year, equal to a case-rate per thousand of the population of 0·23. Both the cases occurred in the village of Fowlmere. The origin of the first case which was notified on October 12th, could not be traced; the second case occurred in another household, and was notified on October 19th; the patient was the daughter of the previously mentioned case, and had been nursing her mother, from whom there is little doubt she incepted the disease.

Diphtheria.

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified and the deaths registered in the district during the seven years 1897–1903 are as follows:—Cases, 7 in 1897, 3 in 1898, 4 in 1899, 4 in 1900, 1 in 1901, 2 in 1902, 2 in 1903, total 23. Deaths, 1 in 1899 and 1 in 1902. The mean case-rate per thousand of the population is 0·37; the mean mortality rate 0·03, and the deaths per cent. of cases 8·7.

Typhoid Fever

Two cases of Typhoid Fever (none fatal) have been notified during the year, equal to a case-rate per thousand of the population of 0·23. One case at Litlington was notified on August 7th; there were no local conditions and no history that could account for it. One case at Meldreth notified on August 16th was with little doubt contracted at Keswick, Cumberland, where the patient had been on a visit; the sanitary condition of the home of the patient was satisfactory, but not so that of the house she visited.

The number of cases of Typhoid Fever notified and the deaths registered in the district during the seven years 1897–1903 are as follows:—Cases, 0 in 1897, 3 in 1898, 4 in 1899, 2 in 1900, 2 in 1901, 2 in 1902, 2 in 1903, total 15. Deaths, 2 in 1898, 1 in 1899, 2 in 1900, and 1 in 1902, total 6. The mean case-rate per thousand of the population is 0·23, mean mortality rate 0·09, deaths per cent. of cases 40.

Continued Fever.

No case of Continued Fever has been notified during the year. The only case of Continued Fever notified during the previous seven years was one in 1898.

Puerperal Fever.

No case of Puerperal Fever has been notified during the year. During the seven previous years three cases have been notified, viz., 1 (fatal) in 1897, 1 (fatal) in 1898, and 1 in 1900.

Erysipelas.

Ten cases (none fatal) of Erysipelas have been notified during the year, equal to a case-rate of 1·16 per thousand of the population. The number of cases notified and the number of deaths registered during the previous seven years are as follows:—Cases, 15 in 1897, 9 in 1898, 8 in 1899, 7 in 1900, 12 in 1901, 13 in 1902, and 12 in 1903, total 76. Deaths, 1 in 1900. The mean case-rate per thousand of the population is 1·21.

Whooping Cough and Measles.

Of the other epidemic but non-notifiable diseases. Whooping Cough was present at Foxton during September and October, and caused two deaths, and Measles were present at Wendy in October and caused one death.

3.—PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

The Melbourn District consists of sixteen parishes, situate in the County of Cambridge, and of three parishes, Great and Little Chishall and Heydon, in the County of Essex, which are associated with the former for the purposes of sanitary administration. These latter rest on boulder clay overlying the upper chalk at a considerable elevation above the rest of the district. The other villages are situated on the flat part of the Cam valley between the Essex and Bedfordshire hills, and with the exception of the whole of Wendy and part of Barrington are either on Tottenhoe Stone or Melbourn Rock. The village of Whaddon rests on the extreme edge of the chalk close to the outcrop of the gault. The chalk thins out in the neighbourhood of all the villages, and springs issue in many places from the base of the chalk and form the main tributaries of the river Cam. At the three villages on the high ground the chalk water is only reached at the considerable depth of about 300ft., while at those villages lying in the Cam valley an abundant supply of wholesome water could be obtained at the source and in many instances is available for the use of the inhabitants.

Physical
Features, &c.

At Barrington, Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton, the chalk marl is being worked for the manufacture of Portland Cement, which is becoming an important industry.

4.—HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

The general character of the labourers' dwellings in the district has been adverted to in several previous reports, and during the year the accommodation has been increased by the erection of new houses in the following villages, viz : at Bassingbourn 1, Fowlmere 2, Litlington 1, Melbourn 4, Meldreth 7 and Shepreth 1.

House
Accommodation

Cottages have been re-thatched and otherwise repaired at the following villages :—Barrington 5, Fowlmere 4, Guilden Morden 7, Melbourn 8, Steeple Morden 16.

At Shepreth and Steeple Morden respectively, a cottage which was reported as being dilapidated and unfit for human habitation has been closed by the owner.

A cottage at Lynch Lane, Fowlmere, was reported to the District Council as being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition and unfit for human occupation. At the instance of the District Council the owner has given the tenants notice to quit, and threatened an injunction in default, but this has been inoperative on account of the dangerous illness of one of the tenants.

A cottage at South Street, Litlington, which was found to be in a dirty condition has been cleansed on notice from the Inspector of Nuisances.

Two cases of overcrowding, one at Meldreth and one at Litlington, have been reported during the year. The former has been abated by the removal of the family to a larger dwelling, and the latter by the removal of two members of the household.

There is no official supervision over the erection of new houses, but in every instance a certificate as required by Section 6 of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, is insisted upon before occupancy.

5.—SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Sewerage and
Drainage.

There is no system of sewerage in the district, but in some of the villages drains are provided which in some instances discharge into the water courses, and in others into cesspools. The road drains in some of the larger villages are utilised as slop water sewers.

6.—EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

Excrement
Disposal.

In most of the villages there are still pit privies remaining, but the gradual substitution of pail closets is being continued with as much rapidity as possible. In some of the better class houses there are water closets connected with cesspools.

In several instances the pit privies are too near the houses owing to want of adequate open space.

The excrement both from pit privies and pail closets is disposed of on garden ground.

At High Street, Meldreth, three earth closets have been substituted for pit privies and the pits have been filled up.

Much of the difficulty of disposal of slop water especially in the case of groups of cottages could be overcome by the interposition of a filter bed such as I have designed at the head of the combined drain.

7.—REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

Removal of
Refuse.

The house refuse is removed and disposed of by the occupiers temporarily in ash pits, and afterwards on the gardens or allotments.

There is no system of scavenging in any of the villages ; it might be worth while for the Council to consider whether systematic scavenging might not be introduced in several of the larger villages in the district.

8.—WATER SUPPLY.

At Barrington, Abington Pigotts, Meldreth, Whaddon, Wendy and Shingay, the supply of water for drinking purposes is derived from artesian wells sunk into the Greensand formation. Water Supply.

At Great and Little Chishall and Heydon part of the supply is obtained from wells and part from ponds.

In the other villages in the district the supply is obtained from surface wells and in a few cases from natural springs and water courses.

The supply is sufficient in most of the villages, but at Great and Little Chishall and Heydon there has been often an insufficient supply, especially during dry seasons.

Many of the surface wells are liable to pollution by the local conditions.

The scheme for the improvement of the water supply for Great Chishall, mentioned in my previous report, has been completed during the year, but owing to the deficiency of rainfall has not been the success anticipated. It is projected to supplement the supply by the collection of rain water from the roof of the Chapel.

The recommendations mentioned in my last report as to the pump situate near the School at Litlington have been carried out and the supply now appears to be satisfactory.

In consequence of a report by the Inspector of Nuisances that six cottages at Meldreth had been allowed by the owners to be occupied before the necessary certificate as required by Sec. 6 of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, had been obtained, and that the water in the well on the premises appeared to be unsatisfactory, an order was made by the Council that the owners have the water analysed; a sample of the water was analysed and found to be unfit for drinking purposes, whereupon the Clerk was instructed to take proceedings against the owners for contravention of the Act. The owners subsequently made arrangements for a provisional supply from an artesian well pending the boring of a new well, and this arrangement was sanctioned by the Council.

On December 30th, the body of a cat in a putrid condition was drawn up from the deep well at Great Chishall, and on the advice of the Medical Officer of Health the usual chemical measures were taken to purify the water.

Public Pumps have been repaired at the following villages:—Barrington 1, Great Chishall 1, Litlington 2.

Eight certificates under Sec. 6 of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, have been granted by the Council.

9.—PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Inspections. The Slaughter-houses, Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops have been periodically inspected, and any defects found have been on notice from the Inspector of Nuisances immediately remedied.

10.—FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Factories and Workshops The Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, has imposed several new and important powers and duties on the District Council.

Factories.—There are no non-textile factories in the district where more than forty persons are employed.

Workshops.—The number of Workshops at present recorded is 79, including 19 Bakehouses, 18 Blacksmiths, 6 Builders, 6 Bootmakers, 2 Carpenters, 12 Dressmakers, 5 Harness Makers, 2 Plumbers, 2 Tailors and 7 Wheelwrights.

The Workshops above-mentioned have been inspected from time to time, and where any defects have been found they have been remedied.

One notice from His Majesty's Inspector of Factories with regard to a nuisance at a workshop at Bassingbourn has been received during the year. The nuisance was abated at the instance of the Inspector of Nuisances.

Bakehouses.—The nineteen Bakehouses mentioned above have been periodically inspected during the year, and the special regulations contained in the Act, have been enforced. There is no underground Bakehouse in the district.

Register of Workshops.—A register of Workshops in the district has been compiled.

11.—NUISANCES.

Nuisances. In consequence of complaints of a nuisance caused by the drainage of certain premises in High Street, Melbourn, discharging on to the roadway, the Medical Officer of Health and Inspector of Nuisances reported the matter to the District Council, whereupon notices were served on the owners of the premises causing the nuisance to divert the drains carrying offensive matter and make them discharge into cesspools on their own premises, and this order has been carried into effect.

At Guilden Morden a nuisance caused by the sewage from houses adjacent to Church Street discharging into the public road drain has been abated on notice from the Inspector of Nuisances by the owners disconnecting the drains; another

nuisance caused by the drainage of a house discharging into a ditch by the side of a private road has been abated by the provision of a new drain and cesspool.

Three pig nuisances have been satisfactorily abated on notice from the Inspector of Nuisances.

12.—METHODS OF DEALING WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The methods of dealing with infectious diseases are by notification, followed by enquiry by the Medical Officer of Health, Inspector of Nuisances, or by both, according to the importance of the cases. The Joint Isolation Hospital for this District and the Royston Urban District, and the Ashwell Rural District, is situate in Garden Walk, Royston, and twenty cases of Scarlet Fever from this district have been treated there during the year. Where cases were not removed advice was given to the householders as to the best means of isolation of cases in their own homes. The Schools' authorities have been informed of the households in which infectious diseases have appeared, and requested to exclude all the members until they are free from infection; where epidemic influence shows a tendency to spread closure of the schools has been recommended, and in this regard the Melbourn Schools were closed for several weeks on account of the epidemic of Scarlet Fever, and the schools were sprayed with Formalin.

Isolation
Hospital
&c.

In threatened outbreaks of Diphtheria, prophylactic doses of anti-toxin are recommended as a method of precaution for the protection of all persons known to have been exposed to the chance of infection, and bacterial examination of rubbings from the throats and the nasal passages of all known "Contacts" is recommended for the discovery of any unsuspected cases of the disease.

At the conclusion of a case the infected rooms and the articles contained therein are disinfected by aerial disinfectants, and where considered necessary the bedding, &c., is removed for disinfection to the Stove at the Isolation Hospital, Royston.

13.—ADOPTIVE ACTS.

The only Adoptive Act in force in the District is the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Adoptive
Acts.

All the above remarks, together with the tables of Statistics required by the Local Government Board, and the Inspector's record of work, I respectfully submit to the Rural District Council.

BUSHELL ANNINGSON.

TABLE I.
Melbourn Rural District.
Table showing Vital Statistics for the year 1904 and the antecedent seven years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to the middle of the year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all ages belonging to the District.	
				UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		AT ALL AGES.					Number.	*Rate.
		Number.	*Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	*Rate.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
†1897	9558	194	20·3	15	77	102	10·7	...	...	14	116	12·1
1898	9308	227	24·3	19	84	100	10·7	...	...	2	102	10·9
1899	9057	170	18·7	12	70	107	11·8	...	...	14	121	13·3
1900	8806	205	23·2	23	112	132	14·9	..	...	12	144	16·3
1901	8556	215	25·1	13	60	94	10·9	...	...	18	112	13·0
1902	8556	170	19·8	12	70	114	13·3	...	...	16	130	15·2
1903	8556	197	23·0	17	86	113	13·2	...	...	10	123	14·3
Averages for years 1897—1903.	8914	197	22·0	16	81	109	12·2	...	...	12	121	13·5
1904...	8556	171	19·9	10	58	100	11·6	...	...	13	113	13·2

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of population.
† District constituted in this year.

The Public Institutions taken into account for the purposes of this and Table IV. are the Union Workhouse and Cottage Hospital, Royston, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, and the County Asylum, Fulbourn.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term “Non-residents” is meant persons brought into the district, on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term “Residents” is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)				39515.	} Census 1901.
Total population at all ages				...	..	...	8556.
Number of inhabited houses				...	...	...	2115.
Average number of persons per house				...	...	...	4·0.

TABLE II.

Omitted by direction of the Local Government Board as needless for small and undivided districts.

TABLE III.

Melbourn Rural District.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.								No. of cases re-moved to Hos-pital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upw'ds.		
Smallpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	10	...	...	...	...	7	3	...
Scarlet Fever	47	...	13	31	3	...	...	20
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Relapsing Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Continued Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	61	...	13	31	3	11	3	20	

NOTE.—The Joint Isolation Hospital for this District, the Royston Urban District and the Ashwell Rural District is situate at Garden Walk, Royston.

TABLE IV.
Melbourn Rural District.
Causes of Death at several age periods during the Year 1904.

CAUSES OF DEATH. 1.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT. 9.
	All Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
	2	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	
Smallpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever... {	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa. (see notes on next page)	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	..
Enteritis. (see notes on next page)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other septic diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	5	...	...	...	3	2	...	...
Other tubercular diseases...	7	...	2	4	...	1	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease...	18	...	...	...	..	10	8	...
Bronchitis	6	...	1	...	...	...	5	...
Pneumonia	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pleurisy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Venereal diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature birth	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and accidents of Parturition	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Heart diseases	17	...	...	...	...	6	11	...
Accidents ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicides	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Murder	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Not certified	7	1	...	...	..	3	3	...
All other causes	39	1	...	...	...	6	32	...
All causes	113	10	3	5	3	31	61	...

See Notes on next page.

NOTES.

- (a) In this table all deaths of “Residents” occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are included with the other deaths in the columns for the several age groups (columns 2-8). Deaths of “Non-residents” occurring in public institutions in the district are excluded from columns 2-8.
- (b) See notes on Table I. as to the meaning of “Residents” and “Non-residents,” and as to the “Public Institutions” taken into account for the purposes of these Tables.
- (c) Under the heading of “Diarrhœa” are included deaths certified as from diarrhœa, alone or in combination with some other cause of ill-defined nature ; and also deaths certified as from
- Epidemic enteritis ;
 - Zymotic enteritis ;
 - Epidemic diarrhœa. Summer diarrhœa ;
 - Dysentery and dysenteric diarrhœa ;
 - Choleraic diarrhœa, cholera, cholera nostras (in the absence of Asiatic cholera).

Under the heading of “Enteritis” are included those certified as from Gastro-enteritis, Muco-enteritis and Gastric catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health has reason for including such deaths, especially those of infants, under the specific term “Diarrhœa.” Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease are included under the latter.

Under the headings of “Puerperal Fever,” and “Cancer,” are included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MELBOURN.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT, 1904.

Animals removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Certificates under Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, granted	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Cesspits cleaned out and filled in	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cottages cleansed under Sec. 46, Public Health Act, 1875	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cottages re-thatched and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Drains cleared out and repaired, and dung heaps removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Houses fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
New closets and privies	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ drains made	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ houses built	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
„ wells sunk	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Notices to repair	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ abate nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
„ „ over-crowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Privy cesspits filled up	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Privies and closets repaired...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cottages overcrowded, abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Samples of water taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sink drains disconnected	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Travelling vans inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Visits to infectious cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
„ slaughterhouses, bakehouses, dairies and cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Watercourses cleaned out	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wells cleaned out and pumps and fountains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

W. J. WEBB,

Inspector of Nuisances.